

PREPARATION OF HAY FOR MARKET

Producers Have Suffered Great Losses Because of Use of Improper Methods.

VITAL INFORMATION LACKING

Product That Grades Highest and Brings Prices Is That Having Natural Green Color—Time of Cutting Counts.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

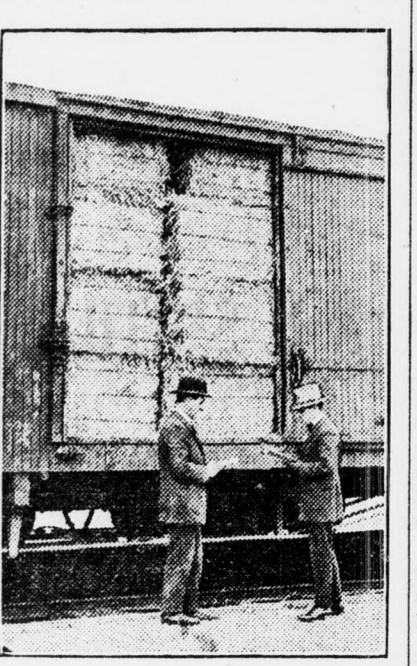
What to do with hay is at present a vexing problem to the hay trade. Losses running into the thousands of dollars annually have been suffered by producers because of the difficulty of getting the hay that is so happily prepared for market, or is of a mixture that causes it to be regarded as of a low grade.

In Department Bulletin 977, "Marketing Hay at Counter Points," recently issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, a method to remedy this situation is ascribed to two chief reasons: The producer and the dealers do not yet agree as to what constitutes quality hay, and many producers lack vital market information regarding the preparation of hay for terminal and consumer markets.

Clover Color. Most...

Quality of hay is at present indicated largely by its color, which is used to gauge the stage of maturity to which it is cut. The hay that grades highest, it is generally agreed, has the best natural green color. Hay dealers can often tell from the color whether hay was cut early, medium, or late, and in their opinion the best power is the early cut, and the poorest that was cut late.

The color of hay, however, in some sections at least, does not agree with the terminal market theory of quality as indicated by color. Many



Inspecting a Car of Hay.

producers prefer medium or late cut hay, especially for horses, because it is easier to cure and not as "washy" as early cut hay.

In some markets size and weight of bales is an important factor, since there sometimes is a preference of some end dealers in the same market for hay in small or large bales. The reasons for the demand for certain sizes and weights are numerous and not always based on facts, it is said. However, in general, all kinds of cutting, it is the seller to whom it meets the desires of the buyer.

Undesirable Mixtures Cause Loss.

The production of undesirable mixtures for the market will cause a loss to the producer as long as the market does not want them. Certain of these mixtures are due to lack of knowledge of the true nutritive or feeding value. The producer may know positively that certain mixtures are palatable and contain more total digestible nutrients than others, but in greatest demand, yet he is powerless to make feeders realize their value. The introduction and general use of a new kind or mixture of hay is a very slow undertaking, and it takes of time to become accepted.

About the only way to avoid trouble with undesirable mixtures, says the bulletin, is for the producer to cease growing them and to produce only the kind in demand in the market to which the hay is usually shipped. Copies of the bulletin may be had upon application to the department at Washington, D. C.

PRODUCE HIGH-GRADE SEEDS

Many Farmers Are Not Careful to Prevent Mixture and Keep Out Harmful Weeds.

Even in communities where a single variety of a crop is raised almost exclusively there is a place for the production of seed, the bulletin says. D. W. Fitter, extension specialist in field crops for the Missouri College of Agriculture.

Many farmers do not go to the trouble of keeping up to a high standard of purity, however, and are glad to pay a good price every few years for high grade seed.

Those who are favorably situated can produce seed to meet the demand. Such seed, however, and purpose must be of high quality and considerably better than the average in the community, because farmers will not pay an advanced price for seed that is very little better than their own.

Ideal Type of Agriculture. Dairy farming is the ideal type of agriculture. It removes less fertility from the soil, calls for a higher degree of intelligence, is more pleasant and profitable.

Red Clover Seed Production. Wisconsin led all other states in 1919 in the production of red clover seed. Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Minnesota, Michigan and Ohio followed in the order given.

Unprofitable Meat Practice. Selling hogs and buying pork is not a profitable practice for the man who grows the hogs.

Maintain Flock of Sheep. A flock of sheep can be maintained on many farms besides other stock.

SWEET POTATO CROP DAMAGED BY WEEVIL

Outline of Successful Measures of Eradication.

Review of Work Done in Florida and Georgia Where Situation Was Worse—Use of Clean Planting Stock Is Urged.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

A method of control to eradicate the potato weevil that would otherwise be inflicted by the sweet-potato weevil has been found by the United States Department of Agriculture. A review of the work done in Florida and Georgia where the situation was most critical, 200, bureau of entomology, United States Department of Agriculture. Measures successful in the eradication of the pest in that section are outlined briefly as follows:

The old field should be thoroughly cleaned after the harvest, the vines being fed to stock, and the field hogged over.

The potatoes should be banked as far away as possible from the old field and from the site selected for the next year's potato field.

All potatoes on the farm should be disposed of early.

No potato plants from the old field should be used on the farm and no drawbed should be planted.

Old potato banks should be cleaned as soon as empty.

Only draw from sources known to be free from the weevil should be used.

The Georgia-Florida location was selected for the work because the situation there was serious, the situation in climate conditions adverse and many growers unused to ways of operation. No more unfavorable conditions, it was thought, were likely to be encountered elsewhere in the country.

All these, and other minor difficulties, have been surmounted, however, and the department, in its circular, announces the following conclusions:

"The results of the work after extensive proof that the same methods, followed with painstaking care, will be successful in eradicating the sweet-potato weevil in almost any infested locality where abundant wild food plants do not offer a fresh and continuous food supply for the pest. Careful sorting of the crop, the use of clean planting stock, and an annual change of location for the main planting, even in a continuously infested locality will reduce infestation of the pest to a practically negligible quantity."

"There is no more reason for allowing a sweet-potato crop to be diseased annually than there is for allowing a cotton field to be infested annually, and a concerted neighborhood effort in the application of the principles that have been outlined may free any district from a heavy annual tax."

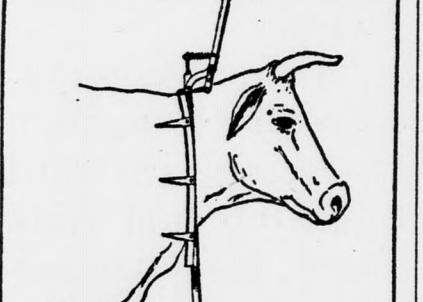
A copy of the circular may be obtained free of charge upon application to the department at Washington, D. C.

SIMPLE AND EFFICIENT POKE

Device Recently Invented to Prevent Animal From Forcing Itself Through Fences.

Scientific American in illustrating and describing an animal poke, the H. G. Gerde of Benkelman, Neb., says:

An object of the invention is the provision of a poke of simple and efficient construction which is formed



Showing the Invention as Applied.

With spurs mounted to automatically engage the neck of an animal when he attempts to force his way through a fence; by means of a lever the spurs are held so that they will not engage the neck of the animal under normal conditions.

ADVANTAGE OF VELVET BEAN

When Properly Dried It Is Distinct Addition to Protein Concentrates for Cattle.

When properly dried before shipping, velvet bean feed is a distinct addition to the protein concentrates on the market.

In the opinion of Dr. J. R. Lindsey, recommends for cows a ration of 40 per cent velvet bean feed, 40 per cent corn or milo meal or ground oats and 20 per cent cottonseed meal or some other protein concentrate.

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Independent Farm. The farms with a cow and a calf at least are independent so far as abnormal grocery stores are concerned.

Egg Must Be Fertile. It matters not how good an incubator, how persistent a sitting hen you have, unless the egg is fertile no chick can be hatched from it.

Maintain Flock of Sheep. A flock of sheep can be maintained on many farms besides other stock.

Percentage of Scrub Cattle. Of American cattle, 97 per cent are scrub.

WAISTLINE IS LOW

Long Bodices Slightly Blousing; Pagoda Sleeves.

Silhouette Remains Practically Unchanged in Mid-Winter Showings by French Dressmakers.

The silhouette remains practically unchanged in the mid-winter showings of clothes by the French dressmakers, writes a Paris fashion correspondent. The waistline is very low—long bodices are slightly blousing. Skirts flare toward the hem, and sleeves are long, the sleeve being the exception. Sleeves are of the pagoda type, or they may be caught in at the wrist. There are a few tight-fitting sleeves, some full ones with the fullness gathered in at the shoulder. Many are wide and straight. Many show fanciful slashings, through which a bright colored undersleeve is revealed. Red is still a favorite color for facings, wide sleeves as well as for trimmings.

The long, flowing scarf of a contrasting color is a feature of Jenny's afternoon and evening dresses. Even silk dresses in her collection expand this idea. Frequently the scarf is of such a material as taffeta.

Skirts are long, the hem being about six inches from the ground. The perfectly slim, straight skirt is being rapidly replaced by the one of circular cut. In most instances the skirts appear at the sides only, the back and front hanging in straight lines.

Hems are irregular. The effect of an uneven hem is not obtained by the use of a hem, but it is obtained by the use of a contrasting fabric.

Corset-colored devoré, white silk embroidery and black fur are combined to make this frock most fetching for the well dressed high school miss. It also boasts a Paris label. The hat is of black velvet with a touch of blue.

CARE IN SELECTING COLORS

Choosing Colors for Everyday Clothes for Mother and Daughters Will Add to Happiness.

Isn't it more important that everyday clothing, both for mother and child, should be pretty and becoming than that the "Sunday clothes" or clothes for special occasions should have the care? A child that wears a nice coat, a nice dress, and is more likely to take care of it and learn better habits and will be a happier child than one who is shamed of her clothes. A mother who wears prettier everyday dresses will be happier, have a happier family than one who is careless or slovenly or who wears ugly, unbecoming work dresses.

A becoming color costs no more than an ugly one. Color is a matter of taste, and establishing the matter of color in becoming lines or adding pretty collars and pockets or a few stitches of embroidery to a school dress makes all the difference in the world.

Cape Costumes for Sports.

The cape costume has made strides in popularity lately, especially in tweeds and other sports wear fabrics. One shopper wore a brown homespun cape, which was very becoming, but better fits the hips at the back, over front and back panel and circular sections of brown and white plaid this plaid also collar of the skirt, this plaid also collar of the cape.

Delicate Scent.

A dash of delicate perfume may be added as the final touch to the toilette. Care must be taken that it is not too strong, for nothing is more disagreeable to the rest of the world.

NOVELTY SILKS FOR SPRING

Special Attention Given to Fabrics for Children's Wear—Loud Plaids for Sports.

Silk manufacturers, believing that women will buy things in colors, are introducing many fabrics that are unusually well suited to children's needs.

In the sports line, for example, the "spider" silk, a combination of colored and bold designs, have yielded to the quiet tones suitable for the simple sun-top frocks so similar to the style affected by juniors.

Women are expected to want a spider silk in a white or white with orange gay color which gives brightness without garishness, and this, too, helps to make the way of the child's dress designer an easy one. Gingham plaids mark the choice of design and color.

One finds here a white crepe de chine, with tiny check of bright red woven or printed on the fabric, and there a light Jade green crepe cotton with large check made by a white with a yellow stripe.

For summer afternoons frocks are introduced in the "jungle" gingham ideas in softer effects than are usually found in the cotton. Others use plain and colored crepe de chine and ribbon.

Velvet, silk, satin, and ribbons are combined to make the soft fabric caught with jeweled buckles. Sandals and strap slippers in rich metals and silk brocades smart the feet.

Make Your Own Rug.

To make a pretty rug cut two woolen, of medium weight, one and one-quarter inch wide strips, fold them in half, and, to prevent raw edges, turn under the ends.

Knit a strand 4½ inches long double and sew, always carrying broad to the fold. Turn the rug over and repeat this process.

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Lately the slightly deeper pastel colors have been given more attention, a number of the colors being too bright for the summer.

Such as of those and combinations with white, such as flame, mauve, yellow, red and green, with the softer tones employed also for white blouson models.

These are used especially for sports models designed for travel southward.

Georgette is still shown and has many uses.

It is Not Possible to Secure Best Growth of Animals Unless Grain Is Adequate.

Experiments conducted by the University of Illinois show that pure draft fillies can be produced when good pastures and legume roughages form the diet.

More emphasis cannot be placed upon the importance of good pastures.

Although abundant pastures and legume roughages do not necessarily mean a good growth, the best growth is not possible to secure unless grain is ade-

quate.

Independent Farm.

The farms with a cow and a calf at least are independent so far as abnormal grocery stores are concerned.

Egg Must Be Fertile.

It matters not how good an incubator, how persistent a sitting hen you have, unless the egg is fertile no chick can be hatched from it.

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